

# OUTGOING MESSAGE

Approved For Release 2003/09/30 : CIA-RDP78S01932A000100230040-9

SIGNAL CENTER USE ONLY

AGE

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CLASSIFICATION

MESSAGE HANDLING INDICATOR

DATE-TIME GROUP

CITE

MESSAGE REFERENCE NUMBER

SOURCE REF:

ROUTING

1		4		7		10	
2		5		8		11	
3		6		9		12	

TO: IMMEDIATE WHITE HOUSE//SITUATION ROOM FOR RE MCMAHIS.

ITEM NO: 00-5

DATE: 10 APRIL 1974

SUBJECT: FIGHTING FLARES IN CENTRAL LAOS

REF :

THE CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING THE RECENT FLARE UP OF FIGHTING IN CENTRAL LAOS ARE STILL UNCLEAR, BUT IT APPEARS THAT COMPANY-SIZE OR LARGER PATHET LAO AND/OR NORTH VIETNAMESE FORCES ON APRIL 8 AND 9 CONDUCTED ATTACKS AGAINST LAO ARMY POSITIONS NEAR THE ROUTE 13 AXIS NORTHEAST OF SAVANNAKHET. AT LEAST ONE LAO ARMY POSITION, LOCATED ABOUT 30 MILES FROM SAVANNAKHET WAS OVERRUN.

DATE:  
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THE ATTACKS HAVE OCCURRED IN A GENERAL AREA WHICH HAS BEEN UNDER PREDOMINANTLY VIENTIANE'S CONTROL SINCE THE CEASE-FIRE. THERE ARE A NUMBER OF CONTESTED SECTORS IN THE AREA NORTHEAST OF SAVANNAKHET, HOWEVER, AND LOCALIZED SKIRMISHING HAS BROKEN OUT FROM TIME TO TIME. THERE IS NO INDICATION AT THIS TIME THAT THE LATEST SPATE OF ATTACKS REPRESENTS ANYTHING MORE THAN A CONTINUATION OF LOCALIZED TACTICAL ACTIONS.

ACCORDING TO A LATE PRESS REPORT FROM VIENTIANE, THE NEW CABINET DISCUSSED THE ATTACKS AT ITS INITIAL MEETING TODAY. PATHET LAO MINISTERS REPORTEDLY STATED THAT THEY WOULD DO THEIR BEST TO STOP THEIR FORCES OPERATING IN THE SE BANG FAI AREA.

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